

Jed 779

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

COUNTRY	China	REPORT	50X1-HUM
SUBJECT	Chinese Communist Postal Censorship in East China	DATE DISTR.	18 December 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD 50X1-HUM
		REFERENCES	

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

50X1-HUM

1. In May 1953, a Chinese Communist postal censorship unit in East China was placing one of the following marks in a corner of an envelope after censorship:
 - a. A red mark, indicating that the letter, being considered suspicious, had been "cheated" to prevent development of any writing in secret ink.
 - b. A blue mark, indicating that the letter had been photographed or copied down for study purposes.
 - c. A green mark, indicating that the letter had been tested by a scientific method.
2. Red, blue or green spots were often found on domestic letters and on letters from abroad received in Shanghai.²

50X1-HUM

2. Comment. It is questionable whether the Communists would use such obvious marks to indicate clandestine censorship even if the significance of the marks was to be known only to other government units.

Comment.

special efforts were being taken by the Communist authorities in examining mail so that no indications of tampering would be apparent; no marks or seals were used to show censorship, and in some of the major cities such as Shanghai, violet-rays and other special scientific devices were employed by examining authorities.

50X1-HUM

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE EV	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC						
----------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--	--	--

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#")